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August 24, 1999

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/227,742; Filed: January 8, 1999
For: **Method for Increasing Viability and Transformation Efficiency of
Bacteria During Storage at Low Temperatures**
Inventors: F. R. Bloom *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4770003/RWE/GER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement and Fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (*in duplicate*);
2. A listing of the cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (24 sheets);
3. A copy of each of the cited documents, except for document AR1;
4. Our Check No. 25204 in the amount of \$240.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)); and
5. One (1) return postcard.


It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
August 24, 1999
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Grant E. Reed
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Enclosures